Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Auto Body Shop

Spray Painting

Use drop/ground cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping, and sandblasting, as well as the mixing of paints, solvents, and tool cleaning.

Shelter any blasting and spray painting activities. Hang wind-blocking tarps to prevent sand blasting dust and overspray from escaping. Do not conduct these activities when wind conditions are such that containment is ineffective. Do not conduct these activities over open water.

Maintain a clean working environment. Utilize dry cleaning methods (e.g. sweeping). If washing is unavoidable, collect wash water for treatment and/or proper disposal. Vacuum loose paint chips and paint dust to prevent discharges. Properly dispose of surface chips, used blasting sand, residual paints, and other materials. Use temporary storage containment that is not exposed to rain.

Cover and seal nearby storm drain inlets with waterproof material, mesh, or other runoff control devices. Leave covers in place until job is complete. Then remove cover from inlet. Clean covers daily and remove any debris for proper disposal.

Properly clean, store, and dispose of painting, finishing, and coating materials. Do not dispose of toxic substances or liquid wastes on the pavement, ground, or storm drain. Cover materials with a temporary waterproof covering made of polyethylene, polypropylene or hypalon. Clean paintbrushes and tools covered with water-based paints in sinks connected to sanitary sewers or in portable containers that can be poured into a sanitary sewer drain. Clean paintbrushes and tools covered with non-water-based paints, finishes, or other materials such that used solvents (e.g., paint thinner, turpentine, etc.) can be collected for recycling or proper disposal. Recycle paint, paint thinner, solvents, and other recyclable materials whenever possible.

Train employees on BMP implementation, storm water discharge prohibitions, wastewater discharge requirements, and proper spill containment and cleanup. Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures.

Car Washing/Detailing

- If possible, use properly maintained off-site commercial washing and steam cleaning businesses whenever possible. If washing/cleaning must occur on-site, consider washing vehicle equipment inside the building or on an impervious surface to control the targeted constituents by directing them to the sanitary sewer.
- If washing must occur on-site and outdoors, use designated paved wash areas. Designated wash areas must be well marked with signs indicating where and how washing must be done. Map on-site storm drain locations to avoid discharges to the storm drain system. The designated wash area must be covered or bermed to collect the wash water and graded to direct the wash water to a sanitary sewer after contacting the local sewer authority to find out if pretreatment is required. Use biodegradable, phosphate-free detergents for washing vehicles as appropriate. Do not conduct oil changes and other engine maintenance in the designated washing area. Perform these activities in a place designated for oil change and maintenance activities. Cover the wash area when not in use to prevent contact with rain water.
- Pressure and steam clean off-site at commercial washing/steam cleaning facility to avoid generating runoff with high pollutant concentrations. If done on-site, no pressure cleaning and steam cleaning should be done in areas designated as wellhead protection areas for public water supply. Have all steam cleaning done in areas designed to collect and hold the wash and rinse water or effluent generated. Recycle, collect or treat wash water effluent prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
- If possible, eliminate or reduce the amount of hazardous materials and waste by substituting non-hazardous or less hazardous material. Use non-caustic detergents instead of caustic cleaning for parts cleaning. Use detergent-based or waterbased cleaning systems in place of organic solvent degreasers. Replace chlorinated organic solvents with non-chlorinated solvents. Non-chlorinated solvents like kerosene or mineral spirits are less toxic and less expensive to dispose of properly. Check list of active ingredients to see whether it contains chlorinated solvents. Choose cleaning agents that can be recycled.

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- Good housekeeping practices can minimize the risk of contamination from wash water discharges. Provide trash container in wash area. Sweep washing areas frequently to remove solid debris. Inspect and maintain sumps, oil/water separators, and on-site treatment/recycling units.
- Emphasize to employees the connection between the storm drain system and runoff, help reinforce that car washing activities affect local water quality. Train employees on proper cleaning and wash water disposal procedures and conduct "refresher" courses on a regular basis. Train staff on proper maintenance measures for the wash area. Train employees and contractors on proper spill containment and cleanup. Collect all spilled liquids and properly dispose of them. Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in a location known to all near the designated wash area.

Outdoor Storage of Chemicals, Solvents, and Batteries

Provide secure storage to prevent vandalism-caused contamination. Place tight-fitting lids on all containers. Enclose or cover the containers where they are stored. Raise the containers and batteries off the ground by use of pallet or similar method, with provisions for spill control. Contain the material in such a manner that if the container leaks or spills, the contents will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drainage system, surface waters or groundwater.

Place drip pans or absorbent materials beneath all mounted container taps, and at all potential drip and spill locations during filling and unloading of containers. Any collected liquids or soiled absorbent materials must be reused/recycled or properly disposed.

Inspect storage areas regularly for leaks or spills. Conduct routine inspections and check for external corrosion of material containers. Also check for structural failure, spills and overfills due to operator error. Check for leaks or spills during pumping of liquids. Visually inspect new containers for loose fittings, poor welding, and improper or poorly fitted gaskets. Look for corrosion, leaks, cracks, scratches, and other physical damage that may weaken the container. Replace containers that are leaking, corroded, or otherwise deteriorating with ones in good condition. If the liquid chemicals are corrosive, containers made of compatible materials must be used instead of metal drums. New or secondary containers must be labeled with the product name and hazards.

Train employees in proper storage measures. Train employee and contractors in proper spill containment and cleanup.

Parking Areas

Clean parking lots on a regular basis to prevent accumulated wastes and pollutants from being discharged into storm drain systems during rainy conditions. When cleaning heavy oily deposits, use absorbent materials on oily spots prior to sweeping or washing. Dispose of used absorbents appropriately.

Allow sheet runoff to flow into biofilters (vegetated strip and swale) and/or infiltration devices. Utilize sand filters or oleophilic collectors for oily waste in low concentrations. Clean out oil/water/sand separators regularly, especially after heavy storms.

Have designated personnel conduct inspections of the parking facilities and storm drain systems associated with them on a regular basis. Inspect cleaning equipment/sweepers for leaks on a regular basis.

Have spill cleanup materials readily available and in a known location. Cleanup spills immediately and use dry methods if possible. Properly dispose of spill cleanup material.

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